

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **amend** the following claims as indicated:

Claim 18 (Amended). The apparatus according to claim 1 further comprising a setting device that operates based on music data which commands generating of music tones, and that sets one or more of tone generating processes based on the music data to one or more of the plurality of the tone generating channels, wherein in case that a tone generating process is set to a tone generating channel, the clock controller starts supplying of the clock signal for a period necessary for the tone generating channel to generate music tones so that the tone generating channel starts the generating of the music tone, and stops supplying of the clock signal for the period when the volume level of the music tones generated by the tone generating channel becomes less than a predetermined value.

Claim 19 (Amended). The method according to claim 16 further comprising the step of setting one or more of tone generating processes to one or more of the tone generating channels based on music data which commands generating of music tones, wherein in case that a tone generating process is set to a tone generating channel, the supplying step starts supplying of the clock signal for a period necessary for the tone generating channel to generate music tones so that the tone generating channel starts the generating of the music tone, and the stopping step stops supplying of the clock signal for the period when the volume level of the music tones generated by the tone generating channel becomes less than a predetermined value.